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The Beginning of the temperance
movement in Vineland

by

Frank De Wette Andrews

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TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT
IN
VINELAND

COMPILED BY
FRANK D. ANDREWS

VINELAND N. J.

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Sec'y Vineland Historical & Antiquarian Society

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P R E F A C E .

Early in its history Vineland became widely known through its temperance policy, the decisive action of the settlers in preventing the sale of intoxicating liquors and the annual vote against license keeping the town free from the demoralizing influence of the saloon and legalized liquor traffic. Through this effort on the part of its citizens, Vineland acquired a reputation for sobriety, industry and intelligence, which it has maintained for the half century of its existence.

This has not been accomplished without persistent work by those who had the best interest of the community at heart. attempts having been made to establish the saloon in Vineland against the will of the people.

While many of the earnest workers in the cause of temperance have passed from this field of action there still remain others who will continue the work so successfully maintained.

With the ever growing public sentiment against the liquor traffic the present inhabitants or Vineland cannot allow the labors of the faithful men and women to be undone or the moral standard lowered. All citizens without regard to personal prejudice should unite in upholding the temperance policy established in June 1863.

THE BEGINNING
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TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT
IN
VINELAND.

One of the important questions the early settlers were soon called upon to decide, was, whether liquor should be sold in Vineland, as it was then in every town and city in the state, or, should its sale be prohibited in the new settlement.

This was a momentious question and one on which the future prosperity of Vineland depended, Let liquor in and the character of the settlement would change; the bright hopes of the founder would be obscured by such a calamity, and a majority of the settlers being in favor of temperance would not care to remain in a community where such principles did not prevail.

A number of the men employed in chopping wood and making roads were accustomed to the use of liquor, so also were a few of the settlers. For the convenience of this small minority and with a view to the profits arising therefrom, one of the grocers, Rollins by name, added ale, beer and porter to his stock of goods.

The sale of malt liquors was believed to be but a starting point, if there was no opposition to his venture doubtless stronger liquors would follow, hence the importance of immediate action.

Mr. Landis, who felt the success of the settlement was at stake remonstrated with the offender, telling him it was against the wishes of the majority of the inhabitants that liquor should be sold in Vineland. This had little influence with Mr. Rollins, who believing he had the right, continued to supply customers with beer.

As it became generally known liquor was being sold notwithstanding Mr. Landis remonstrance, it was decided among those most interested to hold a public meeting. A call for such a meeting met with a ready response fifty-five signatures being readily obtained, as follows:

NOTICE

We the undersigned, settlers of Vineland, respectfully request all persons who are interested in the good order, and the continuance of the same, in Vineland, to meet at the School House, on Wednesday the 10 inst. at 7, O'Clock P. M. for the purpose of considering the propriety of forming a *League* for the purpose of mutual protection against a traffic, corrupting to morals, injurious to health, and in violation of *Law*.

Vineland June 2d 1863

Alex Cole	Landon Taylor
George B. Swain	C W Cutting
B Swain Jr	David Landis
Wiuslow L Fish	E P. Morehouse
W. W. S. Holbrook.	Wm O. H. Gwynneth
Geo. W Houdlett	A S Hall
Wm F, Bassett	A F Barcus
Wm W. Gifford	B D Stewart
E R King	J. H. Allen
Wm A. Morgan	Chas. F. Jones.

John Wescott
H J Barnes
Chester P. Davis
Walter Davis
B Lang
P Gifford
Wm Webster
Thomas Dennery
J V Faunce
S Loomis
D, G. Whitcar
E W. Reaser
I Reaser
S Ganse
Wm W. Cone.
Hiram R King
Avery Y. Gates

T Hoyt
Geo W Nabb
Danforth Clark
Joseph Beaumont
Wm Bridges
Wm S Raubenols
Wm W Gifford Jr
Joseph Rollins
Wm D Martin
H E Thayer
W. S Smith
Isaac Wilson
Geo W Pryor
James H Amsdem
J. B Drew
Levi B Drew
R H Hodgdon
Justin H Loomis

The school house where the meeting was held stood on the lot where the Grove House now stands. Mr. Landis had built it for the accommodation of the people, and it served as Vine-land's first public hall until the depot was erected in 1864, when the second story, known as Union Hall, was used for public gatherings. The school house was used for school purposes during the day, and by various organizations and societies in the evening.

I can find no record of the attendance at this first temperance meeting on Wednesday evening, June 10, but we may believe the importance of the movement filled the room.

Alexander Cole called the meeting to order, John H. Allen was chosen chairman and Timo-

othy Hoyt, secretary. The chairman requested Mr. Cole to address the meeting. Mr. Cole on taking the floor, read the following resolutions:

“Vineland, June 10th 1863.

Whereas: Ale, Beer, and Porter, together with with other spiritous and drugged liquors, are kept, drank, sold and trafficked in by persons being in Vineland, to the disturbance of good order.

1.—Therefore be it resolved as the sense of this meeting. That the traffic in such malt and spiritous liquors is deemed by use to be destructive to the peace & happiness of the community, detrimental to the prosperity and future progress of the settlement, injurious to the health, corrupting to the morals, of those directly engaged therein.

2.—That we will use all proper moral means to suppress this scourge of our race, and to this end, will shun, and in every possible way, discountenance those who persistently continue to be engaged in the sale, or in any way, or under any pretence, give their money, influence, or support, in sustaining the unholy traffic.

3.—That if measures mild in their character, shall fail to put down this abominable nuisance, we will avail ourselves of such other, and harsher means, as may be found in the statutes of New Jersey, and in the Internal Revenue Laws of the U. S.

4.—That whoever sells intoxicating drinks under the cover of a license, is no less the object of our just indignation and scorn.

5.—That we individually and collectively agree, pledge, and promise, to, and with each

other, that we will not, use as a beverage traffic in, or in any way, encourage others in the use, or deal in, of such liquors, and that we will, to the best of our several abilities, discourage, help to banish, and forever keep out of Vineland, this unmitigated evil.

6.—That we do hereby pledge ourselves, one and all, to withdraw our custom or patronage from any store that may sell alcoholic or malt liquors either by the Quart or by the smaller quantity, or any alcoholic tonics, bitters, or medicines, or any name under which it may be designated unless by the written prescription of some practicing physician.”

These resolutions were emphatically endorsed by the people present.

A committee was then appointed to canvass the settlement and obtain a full expression of the people, for, or against, the traffic in, and use of liquors.

The committee consisted of Alexander Cole, John H. Allen and Rev. Samuel Loomis, who circulated papers headed as follows:

“We the undersigned, residents of Vineland, desirous of making our infant settlement for ourselves, our children, and those who come after us to the latest generation, the *home* of sobriety of virtue, of good order, of good morals, and of temporal prosperity, hereby express our *sincere judgement* and our *heartly desire*, with regard to the sale of intoxicating drinks, as a beverage, of whatever form and under whatever name, within the bounds of this community.”

Vineland, New Jersey, June 11th 1863.

Names of those who exclude the sale of all intoxicating drinks in Vineland, and pledge themselves not to patronize any establishment where intoxicating drinks as a beverage are sold.

John H. Allen	H. S. Ames
Samuel Loomis	Climena P. Allen
Chas K Landis	J. B. Drew
Geo. W. Houdlette	Orin Packard
Lizzie C. Bassett	Daniel Strickles
Mira A Houdlette	J. H. Biddle
Hattie E Drew	E. P. Morehouse
Alex Cole	Mary E Morehouse
Lizzie C. Swain.	Rhoda Lombard
Clara B Cole	Elizabeth A Barker
B Swain Jr	John McMahan
Eliza Swain	Mrs Jane McMahan
George B Swain	Mrs Elizabeth D McMahan
Winslow L Fish	Polly McMahan
Eveline M Fish	Eliza A McMahan
Angeline Cole	James H McMahan
Wesley Simmons	D W Barker
Lydia B Brown	Elizabeth A Barker
Geo. B. Manchester.	Mary L Barker
Herbert Cole	Wm R McMahan
Wm. W. Cone	Sarah McMahan
Albert D. Manchester	J Clark McMahan
Warren J Spencer	R A McMahan
L G Spencer	James McMahan
Wm O. H. Gwynneth	Anna M. Spaulding
W M Gwynneth	Mary B. McMahan
L. S. Gwynneth	Augusta Davis
Wm W. Gifford.	R. S. Barns
Timothy Hoyt.	F. C. Cranmer
Emma L. Hoyt	Louiza M Beacham

Enos Worzt	Wm. Bridges
C. M. Wildes	H. M. Holbrook
Charles H. Clark	W. W. S. Holbrook
E. H. Impson	Wm. D. Martin
M. A. Impson	James H. Amsden
Eliza J. Loomis	Lucy Amsden
Mary E. Bowers	Pardon Gifford
Ann Ludham	H. W. Webster
John B. Robbins	A. J. Hamilton
Cynthia S. Robbins	C. S. Hamilton
John Gibson	Mrs. L. Demmon
Mayiet Gibson	Willard A. White
John H. Haswell	Maria H. Richardson
Anna S. Haswell	Mrs. Sarah W. Gifford
Henry Bishop	Mrs. Maria H. Gifford
J. W. Day	C. J. Rice
Lucy Jane Day	Mrs. L. J. Rice
Maryette Perrigo	Mrs. Mary Rice
S. A. Bradford	John Rice
Lydia A. Ulich	W. D. Martin
John C. Ulich	Myra S. Martin
Sarah Johnson	J. E. Hitsell
Charles H. Hathaway	Wm. E. Carney
Andrew B. Hathaway	R. F. Lombard
John R. Johnson	Alfred Noyes
S. B. Spear	Mrs. L. Noyes
Isaac Willson	Mrs. Phebe F. Larrabee
Mrs. E. G. Willson	M. Jane Larrabee
Henry Willson	Ellen Larrabee
Elizabeth H. Willson	Edward F. Larrabee
George W. Rifenburg	Chas. W. Cutting
Rnby A. Rifenburg	J. S. Kuhus
Justin H. Loomis	W. E. Roberts
James M. Loomis	P. Roberts

F. A. Roberts
Rufus Sanders
Albert Crowell
Mrs. W. R. Reede
Amelia M. Adams
Sylvanus Gardner
James Williams
John W. Chace
J. C. Howe
S. E. Howe
Luella Richardson
Chr. Wenz
Louisa W. Wenz
Harriet B. Sanders
Hannah A. Howland
Wm. A. Morgan
Samantha Morgan
Hiram R. King
Amandia M. King
Abby Corlies
Mrs. G. D. Corlies
G. D. Corlies
H. H. Bigelow
Ivory Dame
Lydia Dame
George Dame
Brown Emerson
Catharine B. Emerson
Carrie M. Stratton
Amy Boynton
Mrs. C. A. Boynton
James Stuart
John Dennery
Thomas Dennery

Mrs. J. C. Stafford
Milo Hammond
Mrs. H. U. Hammond
H. Z. Ellis
Mrs. H. Z. Ellis
Rufus Hadgdon
Wm. P. Anthony
Frank E. Anthony
B. Ball
Chas. Ives
James Bean
Pardon R. Francis
D. C. Jenkins
Mrs. Albert S. Hall
A. S. Hall
George Pearson
Henry K. Brandriff
Kate L. Brandriff
Richard Vanman
Isaac Carlton
George M. Carlton
Landon Taylor
James Beacham
Loiza M. Beacham
Stephen Hoyt
Louisa F. Sykes
Robert C. Sykes
Geo. W. Pryor
T. W. Collins
H. Collins
D. E. Collins
Go. Moody
Chevine Moody
Charles Moody

Mrs. C. Moody	Susan Harvey
John Koffman	Sarah T. H. Pearson
Catherine Koffman	Margaret Pryor
Mrs. J. C. Stafford	Charles F. Jones
Geo. L. Post	J. Lauterback
Geo. M. Post	J. C. Fuller
Elizabeth M. Post	Mrs. J. C. Fuller
Sarah Maria Holbrook	G. H. Smith
C. L. Holbrook	Wm. H. Bowen
Thomas Bates	Wm. F. Basset
Mary Bates	A. G. Warner
George Lee	H. McMahan
William Gould	Arthur McGliney
Geo. Pryor, aged 84 years	
Annie T. Harvey	

Names of those who desire the sale of intoxicating drinks for medical purposes, or for other purposes under restrictions.

Benjamin B. Bowen
William Hilton

Names of those who are unwilling to express their opinion. Names written by the committee.

I. H. Garry
Nelson Stevens
Haskell B. Merrill
M. G. Fisk

A meeting was held June 22, 1863, when, after the preliminary exercises, the chairman of the committee to canvass the settlement was called upon to give a report of their labors which was given, as above, and accepted.

Rev. Samuel Loomis was then called upon to report his articles preliminary to a Temperance Organization, which were presented and adopted with an amendment by C. K. Landis.

Nominations were then made for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, a vote was then taken and carried to postpone the election of said officers until Monday evening, June 29. The meeting then adjourned.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Society shall be known as the Temperance Society of Vineland.

Article 2. Its object shall be to promote and perpetuate a public sentiment in favor of Temperance Principles, to guard our infant settlement from the evils of the grog shop, and of drunkenness, and by such continued vigilance and such timely efforts as circumstances may require to prevent forever the sale of intoxicating drinks on the soil of Vineland.

Article 3. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Article 4. There shall be a regular meeting of the Society, the 1st Mondays of January, April, July and October in each year, and it shall be the duty of the officers of the Society by securing lecturers, and presenting subjects for discussion to give to the meetings interest and attraction and secure (so far as they may) a general attendance.

Article 5. Every person who shall become a member of the Society—[unfinished.]

Article 6. The officers of the Society shall be elected at the annual meeting, the first Monday in January and shall hold office for one year.

With a very large proportion of the settlers opposed to the sale of intoxicating liquors, it was proposed to take measures to stop its sale in Vineland. A public meeting in the school house was announced to which all were invited. The farmer left his plow and hoe, the carpenter his saw and plane, the mason his trowel, while the women of the settlement duly recognizing the danger which threatened the peace and comfort of the family and home were also present under the leadership of Mrs. Sarah T. H. Pearson.

At this meeting Mr. Rollins was given an opportunity to defend his position. In his speech, in which it is said he was quite eloquent, he referred to the liberty which the laws of the country gave him and closed by defying any one to interfere in his business which was carried on under a license from the United States Government.

Mr Landis, in reply, entered at once upon the subject in question: "Should liquor be allowed to be sold in Vineland, or should Vineland become thoroughly a temperance town, a refuge for the tempted, and an example for others, until the great destroyer should be banished from ever city and town." His speech aroused great enthusiasm and a request was made to Mr. Rollins that he stop selling liquor. This he refused to and leaving the building went home.

As soon as the meeting adjourned it was again called together in front of the school house by some of the leaders, a procession formed, and soon the assembled citizens, men, women and children were marching down Landis Avenue to the south-west corner of West Boulevard, where Mr. Rollin's store was located. Here he was again requested to stop selling intoxicating drinks. It is reported he had received the advice of some friends who had seen the temper of the people, and acting upon their council, gave the required promise.

Finding he had lost the patronage as well as the respect of a majority of the inhabitants he made preparations to leave Vineland, George Pearson purchased the lot and buildings thereon, afterwards improving the place and residing there.

This attempt to sell liquor in Vineland so aroused public sentiment that when an act to establish a new township in the county of Cumberland to be called the "Township of Landis" was formed, article 19, read as follows: "And be it enacted, That it shall be unlawful for any person to sell any ale, porter, beer or other malt liquor, as a beverage within the said township, except it be at a regularly licensed inn or tavern.

Article 20. And be it enacted. That it shall be submitted to the people annually at their regular town meetings, to decide whether they shall apply for a license to the court for an inn and tavern licensed to sell intoxicating liquors a a beverage in said township, and that no license shall be granted to any person or persons for

that purpose, unless a majority of the votes thus cast shall be in favor of the same."

This act was approved and became a law March 7th 1864.

On the eighth of August the present year Vineland will have attained its first half-century; during that time it has been kept free from licensed tavern or saloon. May the descendants of the early settlers who opposed liquor selling, and the temperance people who have since made their home here, consider it their sacred duty to keep Vineland forever free from the legalized traffic in intoxicating liquors,

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